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Art Unit 2165

Examiner: James H. Zurita

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## AMENDMENT A - CLEAN VERSION

1. A business method for the direct supply for containerized liquid coating product inclusive of a plurality of particular, custom, colors by a supplier remote from a consumer, said business method comprising the steps of:

placing by at least one consumer of a customer order directly with a remote supplier specifying customer order information including indication of at least one liquid coating base, a color, a quantity, delivery address and identification of the customer;

entering said customer order information into a customer order subsystem comprised of software maintained on a computer;

compiling said customer order information with a computer and processing the results of this compilation with a production subsystem to yield production parameters;

operating, in observance of said production parameters yielded by said production subsystem, a containerized liquid coating production line capable of producing a plurality of particular, custom, color containerized liquid coatings with a precision in the addition of colorant to liquid coating base exceeding the precision readily obtainable by a conventional local retailer;

assembling containerized liquid coating product resulting from said production line fulfilling at least one individual customer order and packaging the resulting assemblage as required for shipment;

transporting each said assemblage of containerized liquid coating product fulfilling each said customer order to the delivery address specified by the consumer in placing the customer order;

whereby each said consumer obtains delivery of containerized liquid coating product directly to a specified address which may be inclusive of particular, custom, colors.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said containerized liquid coating product is containerized in rigid metal paint cans.

continued

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3. The method of claim 2 wherein fulfillment of said customer order includes partial filling of one of said rigid metal paint cans.

- 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said containerized liquid coating product is containerized in molded plastic expansible containers.
- 6. The method of claim 4 wherein said molded plastic expansible containers possess a collar about an aperture which collar is gripped during operation of said production line.
- 7. The method of claim 1 further including the step of identifying customer order information upon containers holding containerized liquid coating product.
- 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the step of identifying customer order information upon said containers is effected with the attachment of a label to each said container bearing a digital code readable by a scanner.
- 9. The method of claim 7 wherein the step of identifying customer order information upon said containers is effected with the attachment of a label to each said container bearing printed customer order information.
- 10. The method of claim 7 wherein said customer order information is comprised of at least one of the group comprised of: color name of liquid coating product, customer name, delivery date, quantity of product in order, number of containers for each liquid coating product in the order.
- 11. The method of claim 1 wherein the operation of said production line includes the addition of blended liquid coating base to an empty container.